

A TRUE
RELATION,
OF THE
EXECUTION
OF

Robert Green,

AND

Laurence Hill,

AT

TYBURN:

Two Roman-Catholiques,

Who (with another) received Tryal at the KINGS-
BENCH-BAR, WESTMINSTER; and
were there Condemned to be Hanged, it being
their Evidently proved that they were of the num-
ber of the Murderers of Sir EDMUND-BURY-
GODFREY.

With the manner of their Behaviour in New-Gate after Condemna-
tion; And their last Speeches at the Place of
EXECUTION.

With Allowance.

Printed for H. D. in the Year 1679.

A Relation of the Execution of *Robert Green*, and *Laurence Hill*, at Tyburn, &c.

OF such import and consequence was the inhumane Murder of Sir *Edmund-Bury-Godfrey*, that we cannot imagine there is any true Protestant, or good Christian, but will rejoyce at it's discovery; but how that could ever be expected, was beyond the reach of Man to imagine: The Murder had been committed for the space of several days, with as much secrecie as the Assassins could wish, the Murderers had all of them time enough to make their escape. The mangled Corps cleerly convey'd out of the Town, and cunningly thrown in a by-Ditch, with a Sword pollitickly thrust into the Body, as if he had been his own murderer. And lastly, that on the Thursday after the Saturday on which he went last from his own home, it was his chance to be found by two ignorant, as well as innocent Fellows, who knew not that such a Person was missing, and so consequently could know nothing of the Fact. But during this melancholly Interim, the Worthy Family grew almost distracted for their Governour, the Town mourn'd for want of it's Faithful Patriot, and the sighing Citizens shook their Heads, hearing so worthy a Person should at that Crittical conjuncture be so strangely lost that

no body could be able to give any Account of him.

After this, the same Faction who had thus cruelly handled him, spared no aspersions that might confirm the pretended se-homicide. One gives out that an amorous humour had prompted him to go seek a Wife in the pectention of his age ; another that he purposely obscur'd by reason of Debt, and others bogled not to disperse whatsoever their envy or malice could invent, that might redound to the disparagement of that Worth, which whilst living, it is too apparent they did both admire and fear.

But all this was insignificant, the Vertue, Prudence, and affability which had been long experienced in this worthy Gentleman, had gained so great a credit in all that knew him, to be extirpated on a sudden ; and the notorioufness of these aspersions happening to light on a person so undeserving them, rendered them much more suspicious then if they had fallen on one whose indifferent qualifications had left them doubtful. So that although most Men concluded he was murdered, yet none could imagine how, or by whom ; till at length he was found dead near *Primrose-Hill*, with many circumstances, which infallibly declared those aspersions false, and only invented to divert the inquisitive people. Had there been no other circumstances than his Coat being thrown over his Face, his Shooes found so clean as if he had newly come out of his Chamber,

ber, his Sword thrust through his Body, and yet no blood seen, neer nor about the place. I say these had been sufficient to demonstrate to any intelligible person that he neither kill'd himself, nor indeed was that the place where he was executed. But though all these circumstances, with the charge he had taken on him, of taking the Examination of 2 Persons who were the first discoverers of the late Hellish Plot against our King, Religion, and Government, was enough to call out suspicion on the Faction that Murdered him; yet what particular Persons these should be, or how, where, and when they did it, was very improbable, meerly by humane means ever to be found out. But that great God who is alone able to fetch light out of darkness, and with the same facility beholds the most private or clandestine actions, as he does those open ones committed at Noon-Day: 'Twas he I say (whoever hitherto has been pleased miraculously to defend both our Religion and Government) who brought this bloody and inhumane murder to light, which we hope may mightily redound to the safety and preservation both of our King and Countrey. And that we might plainly perceive that the Almighty does still asperse any quarrel made against our Religion; he brought the discovery of this murder out by no common means: Mr. B. one hired to be an actor in this black tragedy, lying under the intollerable burden of an oppressed Conscience,

Conscience, though he was as far as *Bristol* toward his escape, and in all probability might have lay there till this time, free both from molestation and suspicion; yet so it pleased God, that he could not receive any contentment in that convenient obscurity, or any satisfaction of mind in that flattered repose, till, (though he happed to be no actor in the Murder) he had made some progress in the discovery of it, and under benefit of his Majesties Royal Proclamation, which promised not only pardon, but reward to any one that should bring it to light, this person came up to *London*, and speedily gave information of it to those Honourable persons who were ordered to take his examination. After this, it so happened, that Mr. Pr. a Gold-smith, was apprehended upon suspicion of being an Agent in that bloody fact and being brought to his examination, though there was nothing but circumstances could be proved against him, yet at length he confessed he had a hand in the Tragedy; and the particular of his examination agreeing in substance with Mr. B. he also participated of that Royal goodness which granted him a pardon upon his full Evidence and discovery.

The number of the persons imployed in the murder, according to both these mens testimonies, were about seven, some of them having made their escape, but these three Persons, *Robert Green*, *Lawrence Hill*, and *George Bury*, were on Munday the 10th

February 1679, brought to their ryals at *Kings-
inch-Bar at Westminster*, where both by Mr. Bs. and
r. Evidence, as well as by divers circumstances and
Witnesses. It was prov'd that these three Prisoners
were Guilty of, and had been actually concerned in
the Murther: and indeed they had very little to al-
ledge for their Innocency, but only made use of that
common confidence generally customary to the
greatest Malefactors, that is, impudently to deny the
act; but whatever sign that might be thought of
their desire to live, it is little satisfaction to any Jury
in a Court Judicature, when positive evidence, backt
with all the probable Circumstances which one
might reasonably expect, be produced on that occa-
sion, proclaims them Guilty.

The particular of their Tryals would be too bulky
to be wrapt in our Sheet, and therefore we shall on-
ly acquaint the Reader, by open full Evidence they
were brought in Guilty, and accordingly Sentenced
to suffer that infamous death which the Law usually
inflicts on Murtherers.

*After Condemnation, the deportment of the two first, viz.
Green and Hill, in Prison was not much different from that
they both used in their Tryal, that is, still obstinately to per-
sist in affirming their Innocence, notwithstanding, that full
and satisfactory evidence brought against them, which to all
that heard it sufficiently, prov'd them Guilty.*

But

But Bury's carriage was much otherwise, and in a great measure bespoke his Contrition. He kindly accepted of the advise and counsel of an eminent Orthodox Protestant Divine, who has been pleased to condescend to come to comfort and instruct men in their condition. But the other two obstinately refused such help, and particularly Hill, who when he was moved by another of our Divines, seriously to reflect on the heinousness of his Crime, and to set his Soul in order for its speedy flight, desired him to desist from such expression, telling him that he had done that sufficiently already, that he thank't God he found no Guilt lye on his Conscience, and that he was both willing and prepared to dye, and that after death he did not fear but to be eternally happy.

But it is to be feared this assurance was a little staggered of at the more Proximate apprehensions of Death, for the night before their Execution (Bury having for some reasons received a gracious Reprieve,) Hill and Green desired the company of a Popish Priest then in Newgate, who had formerly received Sentence of Condemnation for executing his Function in England, with whom they had a great desire to discourse.

On Fryday the 21st. of Feb. they were brought down out of Newgate in order to Execution, they both stept into the Cart with a very settled and unconcerned Countenance, Green was Apparelled in a long Blew Gown, having a Book in his hand; it was proved at Tyburn that this Green, (Cushion-layer to Summer-set-House-Chappel) was

is the man that clapt a Handkerchief or long Cravat about Edmund-bury's Neck in order to Strangle him. Hill, formerly a Ser-vant to a Roman Catholick) was one of the three that carried the dead Corps from the Towns-end to Primrose-Hill before him on Horse-back.

When they came to the place of Execution they still continued their former resoluteness, still stubbornly denying the fact even to the very last, to which purpose that little they spoke at Tyburn, chiefly tended: After which they plucked down their Caps and quietly submitted to the Execution of their Sentence.

Finis.

